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# 1992 Wetlands Reserve Program

## Report to Congress



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This report was prepared by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and the Soil Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, as requested by Congress in the Conference Reports on the 1992 and 1993 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Programs Appropriation Acts. For further information on the Wetlands Reserve Program contact James R. McMullen, Director, Conservation and Environmental Protection Division, ASCS, USDA, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C., 20013. For further information on the contents of this report contact Daniel Colacicco, Natural Resources Analysis Division, ASCS, USDA, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, D.C., 20013, or telephone (202) 720-7093.

United States Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service

February 1993



# REPORT TO CONGRESS

## WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM

### INTRODUCTION

This report summarizes current operations and progress of the 1992 pilot Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). The Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (1990 Act) authorized the WRP for the voluntary restoration and protection of wetlands by agricultural landowners through permanent easements on up to 1 million acres of prior converted and farmed wetlands. The fiscal year (FY) 1992 appropriations bill for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) (P.L. 102-142) provided \$46.357 million for the 1992 pilot WRP and established a maximum enrollment level of 50,000 acres. To provide an opportunity for acceptance of acreage in a wide variety of important wetland situations, nine States--California, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, and Wisconsin--were selected to participate in the pilot program.

A signup was held for the 1992 pilot WRP from June 15 through June 26, 1992, for interested landowners to submit their intentions to participate in the program. Restoration plans were developed and landowners submitted actual easement bids by September 24, 1992. On January 14, 1993, after an extensive review of the bids, considering eligibility, costs, and benefits, 298 bids for 49,888 acres from 265 farms were tentatively accepted into the program.

Wetlands Conversion to Cropland. The leading cause of the loss of U.S. wetlands over the past 200 years has been conversion to cropland. One-fourth of the cropland in the U.S., over 100 million acres, was obtained by clearing and draining wetlands. According to the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), wetlands were converted to agricultural uses at a rate of about 300,000 acres per year from the mid-1960's to the mid-1970's. The conversion rate fell to around 100,000 acres per year from the mid-1970's to the mid-1980's. However, a Soil Conservation Service (SCS) study indicates that the agricultural conversion rate has fallen to less than 30,000 acres per year for the 1987 to 1991 period. Based on this latest study of conversion rates, a 1-million-acre WRP could restore enough wetlands to offset many years of agricultural wetland conversions and recover some of the wetland functions and values that were previously lost.

### WRP OPERATIONS

The WRP is administered by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), with technical assistance provided by SCS in consultation with FWS. When funding is available, ASCS will periodically conduct signups to offer interested cropland owners the opportunity to participate in the program.

Eligible Acreage. To be eligible for the pilot WRP, land must have been prior converted cropland, farmed wetlands, wetlands farmed under natural conditions, or contiguous uplands, riparian areas, or natural wetlands. Prior converted cropland is cropland that has been modified for crop production to the extent that it no longer has wetland characteristics and, therefore, cannot be identified as wetlands. Farmed wetlands are cropland that have been partially drained for crop production, but still retain wetland characteristics. Wetlands farmed under natural conditions are cropland that need no modification for crop production and still retain wetland characteristics. Eligible cropland must also have been planted to an agricultural commodity in at least one of the crop years from 1986 through 1990.

Upland buffer areas and natural wetlands are eligible if they are important to the enhancement and protection of the restored wetlands. Riparian areas, which are buffer strips along rivers, streams, channels, or water bodies, are eligible if they link restored wetlands.

Eligible acreage must have also been owned by the person(s) submitting the bid for at least 12 months prior to the signup period.

Easement Length and Payment Limitation. The 1990 Act requires that permanent easements be given priority over shorter-term easements. In order to test landowner acceptability of permanent easements, temporary easements were not offered in the pilot program. There are no limits on easement payments to persons selling permanent easements. For shorter-term easements, annual payments to any person may not exceed \$50,000.

Application Processing. ASCS held a WRP signup for landowners in the nine States during June 1992. Interested cropland owners were provided an opportunity to submit nonbinding intentions to bid for the WRP through local county ASCS offices. The intentions identified the lands that would be restored and protected if the bid was accepted into the program. Landowners were permitted to submit an intention to bid for more than one area on a farm.

ASCS made initial eligibility determinations on ownership and cropping history for the land included in the intention to bid, and SCS, with assistance from FWS, determined (1) whether the

acreage intended for participation was a prior converted wetland, farmed wetland, or other eligible type of wetland or upland, and (2) whether the value of the restored wetland would likely be commensurate with the restoration costs. If the land was deemed eligible for the WRP, then SCS and the landowner, with FWS assistance and concurrence, developed a restoration plan for each eligible area. The plan identified the area of the future easement, practices required to restore the wetland hydrology, cover practices, future maintenance practices, estimated costs for restoration and maintenance, and any approved compatible uses of the easement area.

Once eligibility of the land was determined and the restoration plan developed, any landowner still wishing to participate in WRP could submit a bid to ASCS. The bid included the easement payment requested by the landowner and the landowner's agreement to restore and maintain the wetland. Bids for acceptance into the pilot WRP signup had to be submitted by no later than September 24, 1992, at the local ASCS county offices. ASCS examined each bid to determine whether it met the requirement of the 1990 Act that the easement payment requested by the landowner on the bid did not exceed the fair market value of the land. A WRP bidder was offered the choice of a single lump-sum payment or 10 annual payments. However, final payments will not be made until all the restoration practices required under the restoration plan are completed and the easement has been assigned to the Federal government. Seventy-five percent of the costs of the restoration practices is reimbursable to the participant by ASCS.

Bid Ranking. ASCS, SCS, FWS, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), developed a wetland scoring formula to rate the potential effectiveness of the plan for restoring wetland functions and values on the land subject to the easement. The score derived from the formula for each bid was divided by Federal easement and restoration costs for the land included in the bid and the result was used to rank the bids for selection. For the pilot program, the wetland score was the product of four indices reflecting (1) the expected hydrology restored, (2) the contribution of the restored wetland to the immediate ecological complex, (3) the contribution of the wetland to the environmental management plans of Federal and State governmental agencies, and (4) the possible offsite effects that could adversely affect the restored wetland.

Geographical Wetland Representation. For the pilot WRP, bids for each State were selected from individual State pools to ensure representation of a diversity of wetland types and geographic areas. Wetlands of different types and located in the different areas within the States and across the U.S. perform different functions that may be complementary, but are not easily compared. For example, waterfowl and other migratory birds in the Central

Flyway that need the wetlands of the prairie pothole areas of the upper Midwest for spring and summer nesting also need the wetlands along the lower Mississippi River for winter habitat.

Each State was assigned an approximate acreage allotment based on the total acreage of bids submitted from the State relative to the total acreage submitted from all States. Bids from each State were selected from the pool for that State. If the quantity of acceptable acres exceeded the State allotment, the bid ranking formula was used to select the bids. If the total acceptable acreage from a State was not sufficient to utilize the State's allotment, the unutilized allotment was filled from a pool made up of acceptable bids from States that had already met their allotments.

Bid Acceptance. Bids were accepted subject to (1) proof of clear title to the land that will be subject to the easement, and (2) for bids exceeding \$2,500 per acre or totaling more than \$500,000, a formal appraisal of the value of the land to ensure that the easement payment requested by the bidder did not exceed the fair market value of the land. Landowners may rescind their bids at any time prior to assigning the easement to the Federal government. Thus, some dropout of tentatively accepted acres is anticipated. However, because the dropout rate is expected to be small (and cannot be accurately estimated), the acreage, costs, and benefits presented in this report are based on all of the tentatively accepted bids.

#### PROGRAM RESULTS

During the June signup, landowners demonstrated substantial interest in the restoration and protection of agricultural wetlands through permanent easements. Intentions to bid were submitted for 462,078 acres, located on 2,337 farms (Table 1). By the September 1992 deadline, owners of slightly more than half of the farms for which intentions had been received, 1,314 farms, submitted 1,776 bids for 249,059 acres. Across the nine pilot States, individual farm acreage bids ranged from less than 1 acre to 19,676 acres. Bids were accepted for 49,888 acres on 265 farms, about one-fifth of the farms on which bids were submitted. The average acreage accepted per farm was 188 acres, but more than half of the total number of acres was accepted on farms with bids totaling more than 500 acres per farm (Table 2). Nearly 40 percent of the farms with accepted bids had from 5 to 50 acres accepted, but these bids accounted for less than 5 percent of the total acreage tentatively accepted. The per-farm size distributions of intentions acreage, bid acreage, and accepted acreage were very similar.

Mississippi and Louisiana landowners submitted more acres relative to the amount of eligible cropland in their States than did landowners in any of the other pilot States; Minnesota

submitted the least. Mississippi and Louisiana landowners submitted bids from 488 farms for 134,870 acres. Bids were accepted for 28,960 of those acres, about 58 percent of the acres accepted into the program from all States (Table 1). The average per-farm amount of land accepted in these two States was large, more than 300 acres.

California landowners also submitted bids for a large amount of land, 34,296 acres; 6,026 of those acres were accepted, with a per-farm average of 287 acres. Iowa landowners submitted 367 bids, the largest number of bids from any State. Iowa also had the largest number of farms accepted, 83. However, the average amount of land accepted per Iowa farm was relatively small, 61 acres. North Carolina and New York had the fewest bids accepted. However, the bids accepted from North Carolina landowners were large, averaging 785 acres per farm, while bids accepted from New York landowners were relatively small, averaging 14 acres per farm.

For most States, the proportion of acres accepted relative to acres bid was similar to the nine-State average, 20 percent. However, North Carolina, with an acceptance rate of 31 percent, and Minnesota, with an acceptance rate of 5 percent, differed substantially from the average. North Carolina's high acceptance rate was due to the high environmental benefit-to-cost ratios achieved by the sites submitted for enrollment. The low acceptance rate in Minnesota occurred because a larger percentage of the landowners requested easement payments that exceeded the fair market values established by ASCS.

The majority of the acres accepted into the WRP is concentrated in relatively small geographical areas (Figures 1 and 2). The floodplain along the Mississippi River in Louisiana and Mississippi contains the greatest concentration of accepted acreage. Significant concentrations of acreage were also accepted in parts of northern California.

Commodity program base acreage will be permanently reduced by 10,113 acres--2,873 acres of corn base, 2,580 acres of wheat base, 2,415 acres of rice base, and 2,245 acres of other program base. The expected savings in deficiency payments resulting from this permanent retirement is estimated to be about \$3.4 million over the next 5 years. Most of the savings will come from the retirement of rice base. Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acreage accepted into the program totaled 2,056 acres, primarily in Iowa and Wisconsin. CRP rental payment outlays will be reduced by about \$700,000 on the accepted acreage.

#### Costs

The Federal costs of the WRP include outlays for permanent easement purchases, 75 percent of the wetland restoration

expenses, technical assistance costs, and settlement and appraisal fees. For the acreage accepted into the pilot program, these costs are expected to total about \$46.057 million, or \$923 per acre (Tables 3 and 4). The program acreage acceptance goal could have been achieved at lower cost by selecting more land in the low cost areas from a combined nine-State pool rather than selecting from individual State pools. However, a wide geographic distribution of participation was desired for the pilot WRP to give broader experience in wetland restoration at diverse sites, providing a greater variety of wetland functions and values.

More than 80 percent of the total costs, \$37 million or \$742 per acre, will be expended on easement acquisition. About 80 percent of the easement payments will be made in single lump sums. The remainder will be made in 10 equal annual payments. The average cost-share for restoration is expected to be about \$52 per acre; SCS technical assistance and administrative costs, \$124 per acre; and settlement and appraisal fees, \$4 per acre. Administrative costs of other participating agencies are not included in this report.

California, Louisiana, and Mississippi together accounted for 70 percent of the accepted acreage and 68 percent of the total costs. Louisiana and Mississippi have the lowest total costs per acre, under \$725, but have the largest amounts of acreage. Thus, the total costs for each State are high (Tables 1, 3, and 4). California per-acre total program costs are more than twice the Louisiana/Mississippi average because land values are higher in California. The highest average per-acre easement costs, more than \$2,500, occurred in New York because some acres accepted are on Long Island, where land values are extremely high.

Easement payments are expected to average about \$140,000 per farm, but payments to owners of individual farms range from about \$1,000 to around \$2 million. Payments in North Carolina, with large acreage per farm, and California, with relatively large acreage per farm and high land values, will average over \$460,000 per farm.

Participating landowners agree to pay 25 percent of the restoration costs and to perform future maintenance and repair on any structures needed to preserve the restored wetlands. These costs are expected to total almost \$2 million, or \$39 per acre, for the acreage accepted into the pilot program (Tables 5 and 6). Landowner restoration costs are expected to average \$17 per acre. Future maintenance and repairs, an ongoing responsibility of the landowner, are estimated to average \$1.32 per acre annually, with a present value of \$22 per acre.

### Environmental Benefits

The benefits from the restoration of prior converted cropland and farmed wetlands are derived from the restoration of wetland functions and values. Many complex interrelated environmental functions and values are dependent on wetlands. The loss of these functions and values through wetland conversions have had significant adverse impacts on aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

The predicted functional benefits of the proposed wetland restoration projects are discussed in terms of the acreage accepted, wetland types restored, proximity to existing wetlands, and environmental importance to threatened or endangered species and other wildlife. Due to the similarity in wetland functions and wildlife habitat usage, some States have been combined for discussion purposes. Because physical restoration has not yet begun, the evaluation of the data and predicted benefits of the proposed wetland restoration is primarily qualitative. Several wetland functions, such as water quality improvement, groundwater recharge, and flood damage abatement are discussed only briefly due to the lack of data.

The 49,888 tentatively accepted acres from the nine pilot States consist of 29,404 acres of prior converted cropland, 16,354 acres of farmed wetlands, and 4,130 acres of adjacent farmed natural wetlands, natural wetlands, riparian areas, and upland buffer areas (Table 7). Of the total acreage accepted, 30,868 acres will be restored to forested wetlands, 14,105 acres will be restored to emergent wetlands (marshlands, wet meadows, or prairie potholes), 3,374 acres will be restored to scrub-shrub and other types of wetlands, and 1,542 acres will serve as riparian area or upland buffers (Table 8). About 7,509 acres will directly benefit the recovery of threatened or endangered species. Another 30,085 accepted acres may be utilized by threatened or endangered species or lie within ongoing State or Federal wetland restoration and wildlife project areas (Table 9).

California. Of the 6,026 acres to be restored and protected in California, 5,634 acres are prior converted croplands, farmed wetlands, and riparian areas (Table 7). A total of 5,679 acres will be restored to emergent wetlands, commonly referred to as marshes or wet meadows (Table 8). The likelihood of successful restoration is greater for marshes and wet meadows than for other types of wetlands, because the establishment of persistent, emergent vegetation can be rapid. It is expected that 3,299 acres of the restored areas will be next to or close to existing wetlands, which will provide a reliable seed source for native wetland species and benefit a diversity of wildlife (Table 9). For these reasons, significant gains in habitat benefits are likely to occur within 2 to 3 years after the initial restoration efforts.

An estimated 237 acres of the restored wetlands should directly benefit the recovery of Federally listed threatened or endangered species, including the Aleutian Canada Goose, California fresh water shrimp, giant garden snake, and Southern bald eagle. An additional 5,452 acres may be utilized by these and other plant and animal species. Eighty-five percent of the threatened or endangered species in California are dependent on, or associated with, wetlands.

Iowa/Minnesota/Wisconsin. The restoration of 7,449 acres of emergent (prairie pothole), forested, and scrub-shrub wetlands, and adjacent herbaceous and scrub-shrub upland habitat in these States should provide significant benefits to wildlife (Table 8). Prairie potholes, the most prevalent type of wetland in the region, are critical nesting, foraging, and resting areas for migratory birds.

A total of 4,270 acres of the restored wetlands will be next to or close to existing wetlands (Table 9). Of these wetlands, 718 acres will be next to publicly accessible or managed areas. In addition, recovery of threatened or endangered species should be directly aided by the restoration of 214 enrolled acres. An additional 7,235 acres will benefit migratory waterfowl, other migratory birds, and non-migratory birds and animals within the States.

North Carolina. The potential for restoration success and functional gain is very high for the 4,630 acres of prior converted cropland proposed for restoration in North Carolina, because of the large acreage accepted on individual bids, 785 acres per farm (Tables 1 and 7). For example, one of the accepted restoration projects is larger than 2,000 acres. The return of large, contiguous blocks of prior converted cropland to wetland habitat can be a critical factor in establishing viable, reproducing populations of interior forest animal and plant species, particularly large mammals, such as the black bear.

The restoration of 3,703 acres should directly contribute to the recovery of threatened or endangered species that rely upon forested and scrub-shrub systems (Table 9). For example, the restoration of needle-leaved evergreen, broad-leaved evergreen, and broad-leaved deciduous wetland systems will provide habitat for the red wolf, red-cockaded woodpecker, smooth loosestrife, various species of pitcher plants, and the Venus fly trap. In addition, species such as white-tailed deer, bobcat, and black bear depend upon pocosin wetlands, which are encompassed in the scrub-shrub broad-leaved evergreen systems, for cover and forage. The restoration of these large blocks of wetlands near estuarine receiving waters will also improve water quality and yield a constant, diffuse flow of fresh water that provides essential nutrients to shellfish and juvenile finfish.

New York. Approximately 46 acres of prior converted and farmed wetlands, along with 24 acres of highly disturbed upland buffers, have been accepted into the pilot WRP for restoration and protection in New York. Approximately 23 of these acres will be restored to emergent wetlands (Tables 7 and 8). Although the acreage is small, restoration efforts will likely benefit recovery efforts for Federally listed threatened or endangered species, as well as migratory birds and non-game wildlife.

Missouri. Of the 2,669 acres tentatively accepted in Missouri, 1,859 acres will be reestablished as forested wetlands, and 662 acres will be restored to emergent or marsh wetlands (Tables 7 and 8). All of the Missouri wetland acreage accepted is next to existing wetlands, which will increase the early usage of the sites by deer, grey fox, song birds, reptiles and amphibians, and other permanent and migratory residents. Approximately 319 acres should directly benefit the recovery of threatened or endangered species (Table 9).

Mississippi/Louisiana. The restoration of a combined total of more than 26,281 acres of forested wetlands in Mississippi and Louisiana will have significant benefits to aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, commercial and recreational hunting and fishing, and drinking water quality (Table 8). Bottomland hardwood forests receive floodwaters from adjacent rivers and streams during the spring and provide critical habitat for many fish species for portions of their life cycle. Studies of the Mississippi delta show that more than 50 percent of all fish species, such as largemouth bass, sunfish, catfish, and crappie, utilize the flooded portions of bottomland hardwoods for feeding, spawning, and rearing young. In addition, the retention of seasonal flood waters in these forests removes sediments, pesticides, and nutrients from water running off adjacent agricultural fields.

An additional 2,591 acres of emergent, scrub-shrub, and other wetlands habitat will be restored, providing critical resting and feeding sites for migratory waterfowl, wading birds, and neotropical migrants that move along the Mississippi Flyway. Threatened or endangered species that will be positively affected by the restoration of a projected 3,037 acres in Louisiana include the black bear, bald eagle, and Bachmans warbler (Table 9). In addition, 14,864 restored acres in Mississippi may be utilized by threatened or endangered species or lie in special wildlife management areas.

#### SUMMARY

The 1990 Act authorized the WRP for the restoration and protection of wetlands through the purchase of permanent easements on prior converted cropland and farmed wetlands. The FY 1992 appropriations bill for USDA provided \$46.357 million for

a pilot WRP and set a maximum enrollment of 50,000 acres. ASCS held a WRP signup for interested farmers during June 1992 in nine States: California, Iowa, Louisiana, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, and Wisconsin. Only permanent easements were considered for acceptance into the pilot program.

Landowners demonstrated substantial interest in the restoration and protection of agricultural wetlands through the use of permanent easements. Owners of 2,337 farms in the pilot States submitted intentions to participate for 462,078 acres. By the September 24, 1992, deadline for submitting bids, owners of more than half of the farms for which intentions were registered during the June signup period, 1,314 farms, submitted bids on 249,059 acres, and 49,888 acres were tentatively accepted from 265 farms. The largest number of acres was bid and accepted from the floodplain areas along the Mississippi River in Mississippi and Louisiana. Iowa bids were accepted from 83 farms, the largest number from any State. Individual landowner bids ranged from less than 1 acre to 19,676 acres. The average accepted acreage per farm was 188 acres. However, more than half of the total acres were accepted from farms with accepted acreage greater than 500 acres.

Tentatively approved acres consist of 29,404 acres of prior converted cropland, 16,354 acres of farmed wetlands, and 4,130 acres of adjacent farmed natural wetlands, natural wetlands, riparian areas, and upland buffer areas. More than 60 percent of the total accepted acreage, 30,868 acres, will be restored to forested wetlands; 14,105 acres will be restored to marshlands, wet meadows, or potholes; 3,374 acres will be restored to other types of wetlands; and 1,542 acres are riparian areas or upland buffers adjacent to restored wetlands that will provide habitat complementary to the wetlands. Commodity program base acreage will be permanently reduced by 10,113 acres, with a resulting reduction in deficiency payments of about \$3.4 million during the 1993 to 1998 period. CRP acreage accepted into the pilot WRP totaled 2,056 acres, reducing rental payments by about \$700,000.

Total Federal outlays are expected to average \$923 per acre, consisting of easement purchase outlays of \$742 per acre, cost-share payments for restoration practices of \$52 per acre, SCS technical assistance expenses of \$124 per acre, and settlement and appraisal fees of \$4 per acre. An estimated 7,509 acres will directly benefit the recovery of threatened or endangered species. Another 30,085 accepted acres may be utilized by threatened or endangered species or lie within ongoing State or Federal wetland restoration and wildlife project areas. Almost half of the WRP acreage lies in close proximity to publicly or privately managed wetlands, which will facilitate rapid and successful restoration. In addition, the restoration

of wetland functions on the many large contiguous tracts of wetlands accepted can be a critical factor in establishing viable populations of aquatic and terrestrial species.



Table 1. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Intentions, Bids, and Accepted Acres and Farms.

State	Intentions to Bid		Submitted Bids		Accepted Bids		
	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres	Farms	Acres per Farm
California	78,519	120	34,296	46	6,026	21	287
Iowa	45,068	648	27,889	367	5,096	83	61
Louisiana	119,323	375	69,913	243	14,075	43	327
Minnesota	33,296	224	13,119	106	706	10	71
Mississippi	115,726	372	64,957	245	14,885	47	317
Missouri	28,669	239	14,575	135	2,669	21	127
New York	3,005	53	496	20	72	5	14
North Carolina	25,587	61	15,299	35	4,713	6	785
Wisconsin	12,885	245	8,516	117	1,647	29	56
All States	462,078	2,337	249,059	1,314	49,888	265	188

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 2. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Distribution of Accepted Acreage and Farms by Acres Per Farm.

State	Accepted Acres per Farm				
	< 5	5-50	51-100	101-500	> 500
California Farms Acres	0 0	6 128	1 51	10 2,361	4 3,487
Iowa Farms Acres	4 17	46 997	15 1,042	18 3,040	0 0
Louisiana Farms Acres	0 0	5 168	10 873	17 4,043	11 8,990
Minnesota Farms Acres	0 0	6 131	2 113	2 463	0 0
Mississippi Farms Acres	0 0	5 132	9 651	23 5,929	10 8,173
Missouri Farms Acres	0 0	10 258	3 245	8 2,165	0 0
New York Farms Acres	2 10	3 63	0 0	0 0	0 0
North Carolina Farms Acres	0 0	3 81	1 78	0 0	2 4,554
Wisconsin Farms Acres	3 13	19 375	5 355	1 187	1 719
All States Farms Acres	9 39	103 2,332	46 3,408	79 18,188	28 25,922

Table 3. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Federal Costs.

State	Easement Payments Total (Per Farm)	Restoration Cost-Share	Technical Assistance 1/	Settlement Fees	Total	
Thousand Dollars						
California	9,802	(467)	185	747	34	10,768
Iowa	4,881	(59)	394	632	45	5,951
Louisiana	6,907	(161)	1,185	1,745	45	9,882
Minnesota	640	(64)	30	88	7	764
Mississippi	8,355	(178)	528	1,846	36	10,764
Missouri	2,301	(110)	106	331	14	2,753
New York	183	(37)	10	9	10	212
North Carolina	2,934	(489)	147	584	11	3,675
Wisconsin	1,036	(36)	31	204	15	1,287
All States	37,038	(140)	2,616	6,186	217	46,057

1/ Does not include administrative costs for ASCS or administrative and technical costs for FWS.  
Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 4. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Per-Acre Federal Costs.

State	Easement Payments	Restoration Cost-Share	Technical Assistance 1/	Settlement Fees	Total
	<u>Dollars per Acre</u>				
California	1,626	31	124	6	1,787
Iowa	958	77	124	9	1,168
Louisiana	491	84	124	3	702
Minnesota	907	42	124	10	1,083
Mississippi	561	35	124	2	723
Missouri	862	40	124	5	1,032
New York	2,525	143	124	142	2,934
North Carolina	623	31	124	2	780
Wisconsin	629	19	124	9	781
All States	742	52	124	4	923

1/ Does not include administrative costs for ASCS or administrative and technical assistance costs for FWS.

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 5. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Landowner Payments and Costs.

State	Easement Payments	Restoration Cost-Share	Maintenance Costs	Total Landowner Costs
	<u>Thousand Dollars</u>			
California	9,802	52	89	141
Iowa	4,881	139	190	328
Louisiana	6,907	385	471	855
Minnesota	664	11	14	25
Mississippi	8,355	176	207	383
Missouri	2,301	35	47	82
New York	183	3	5	8
North Carolina	2,934	49	67	116
Wisconsin	1,036	11	16	27
All States	37,038	860	1,106	1,966

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 6. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Per-Acre Landowner Payments and Costs.

State	Easement Payments	Restoration Cost-Share	Maintenance Costs Total	Annual	Total Landowner Costs
			<u>Dollars per Acre</u>		
California	1,626	9	15	0.90	23
Iowa	958	27	37	2.22	64
Louisiana	491	27	33	1.98	61
Minnesota	907	15	20	1.20	36
Mississippi	561	12	14	0.84	26
Missouri	862	13	18	1.08	31
New York	2,525	48	68	4.08	115
North Carolina	623	10	14	0.84	25
Wisconsin	629	7	10	0.60	16
All States	742	17	22	1.32	39

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 7. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Types of Land Accepted.

State	Prior Converted Cropland 1/	Farmed Wetlands 2/	Farmed Natural Wetlands 3/	Natural Wetlands 4/	Riparian Areas 5/	Cropped Upland	Non-Cropped Upland	Total Accepted
	<u>Acres</u>							
California	4,757	822	10	263	46	23	106	6,026
Iowa	1,584	1,883	753	289	82	394	111	5,096
Louisiana	5,243	8,282	0	424	0	125	0	14,075
Minnesota	392	88	0	1	0	211	14	706
Mississippi	9,501	4,841	0	533	10	0	0	14,885
Missouri	2,140	179	5	165	7	161	12	2,669
New York	45	1	0	2	0	24	0	72
North Carolina	4,630	0	0	59	0	0	23	4,713
Wisconsin	1,112	258	79	105	3	79	11	1,647
All States	29,404	16,354	847	1,842	148	1,016	277	49,888

1/ Land that has been modified for crop production to the extent that it no longer has wetland characteristics.

2/ Land that has been modified for crop production, but still retains wetland characteristics.

3/ Land that is used for crop production without any modifications.

4/ Wetlands adjacent to land to be restored.

5/ Strips of land along rivers, streams, or other water bodies that link wetlands to be restored.

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 8. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Types of Wetlands to be Restored.

State	Emergent 1/	Forested	Scrub/ Shrub	Other	Riparian and Upland
<u>Acres</u>					
California	5,679	10	2	211	125
Iowa	2,823	1,220	22	212	819
Louisiana	1,228	12,573	184	0	90
Minnesota	446	0	14	20	226
Mississippi	1,086	13,708	89	4	0
Missouri	662	1,859	0	6	142
New York	23	20	9	1	20
North Carolina	869	1,413	2,384	46	0
Wisconsin	1,289	66	161	10	121
All States	14,105	30,868	2,865	509	1,542

1/ Marshes, wet meadows, and prairie potholes.

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 9. 1992 Pilot Wetlands Reserve Program: Selected Environmental Benefit Measures.

State	Importance of Location				Importance to Wildlife		
	Next to Public Wetlands	Next to Private Wetlands	Close to Wetlands	No Special Significance	Endangered Species <u>1/</u>	Wildlife Project <u>2/</u>	Wildlife Plan <u>3/</u>
	<u>Acres</u>				<u>Acres</u>		
California	1,249	1,658	392	2,728	237	5,452	338
Iowa	649	1,965	873	1,609	58	2,051	2,986
Louisiana	4,806	2,693	1,646	4,929	3,037	5,382	5,656
Minnesota	69	456	80	0	156	0	550
Mississippi	2,396	724	2,676	9,088	0	14,864	21
Missouri	468	2,201	0	0	319	2,230	120
New York	0	33	27	12	0	27	46
North Carolina	4,554	0	0	159	3,703	0	1,010
Wisconsin	0	90	88	1,420	0	80	1,568
All States	14,291	9,820	5,782	19,946	7,509	30,085	12,294

1/ Should directly contribute to the recovery of a Federally listed threatened or endangered species.

2/ Are utilized by threatened or endangered species, or are in a special wildlife project area.

3/ Important areas for wildlife as identified by State or Federal agencies, or in management plans.

Numbers in table may not sum to totals due to rounding.



# 1992 Wetlands Reserve Program

Farms Accepted (1 dot=1 farm)



Note: Dot location within counties does not represent actual location of farms.

Figure 1.

# 1992 Wetlands Reserve Program

Acres Accepted (1 dot=100 acres)



Note: Dot location within counties does not represent actual location of acres.

Figure 2.



# 1942 Wetlands Reserve Program

Area Aerial (1:250,000 Scale)



Scale 1:250,000  
NAD 83  
Datum: NAD 83  
Units: Feet



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